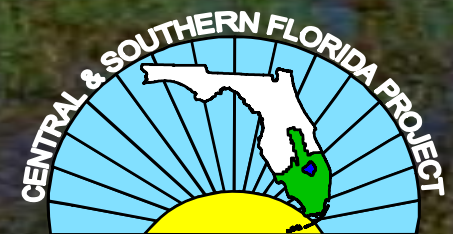


# The Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan

Conference on  
Effectively Restoring  
Ecosystems



COMPREHENSIVE EVERGLADES  
RESTORATION PLAN





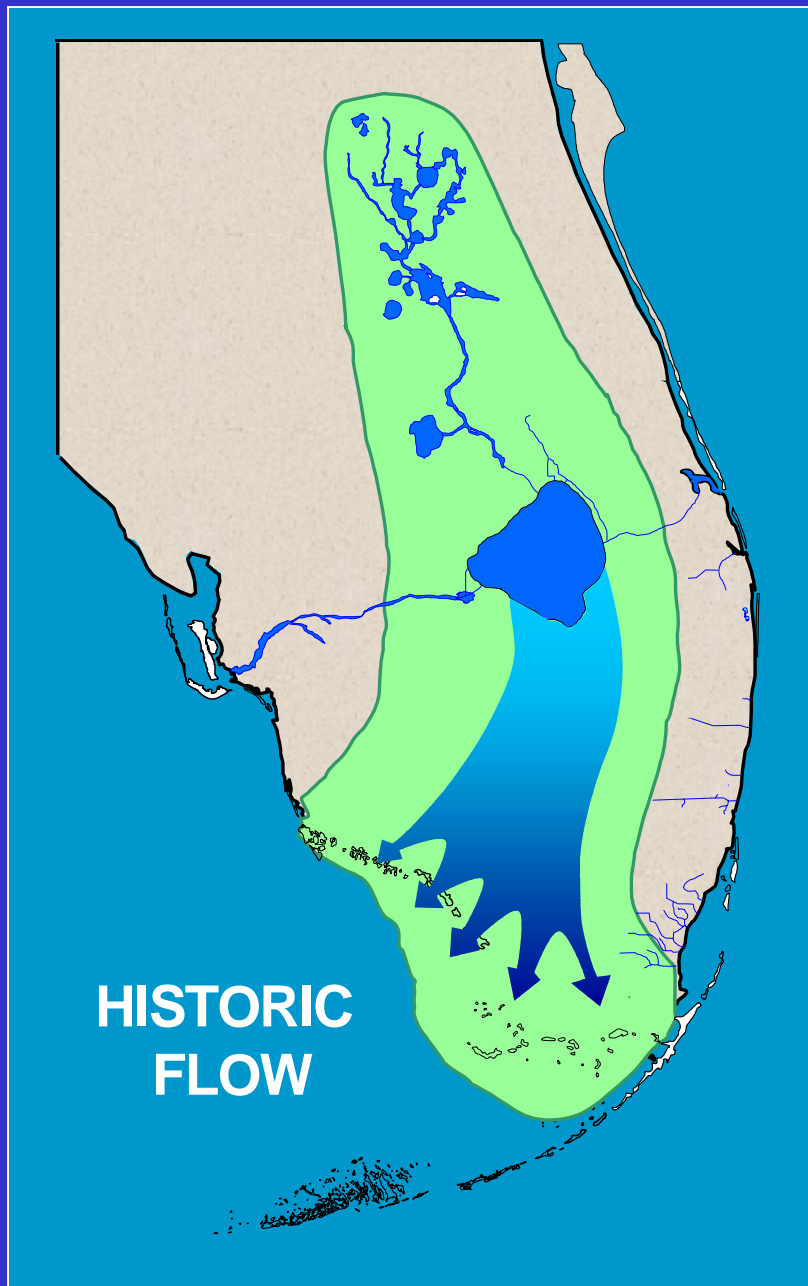
# Why are the Everglades Unique and Important?

*As Marjory Stoneman Douglas wrote,*

*"There are no other Everglades in the world."*

The Everglades have been designated:

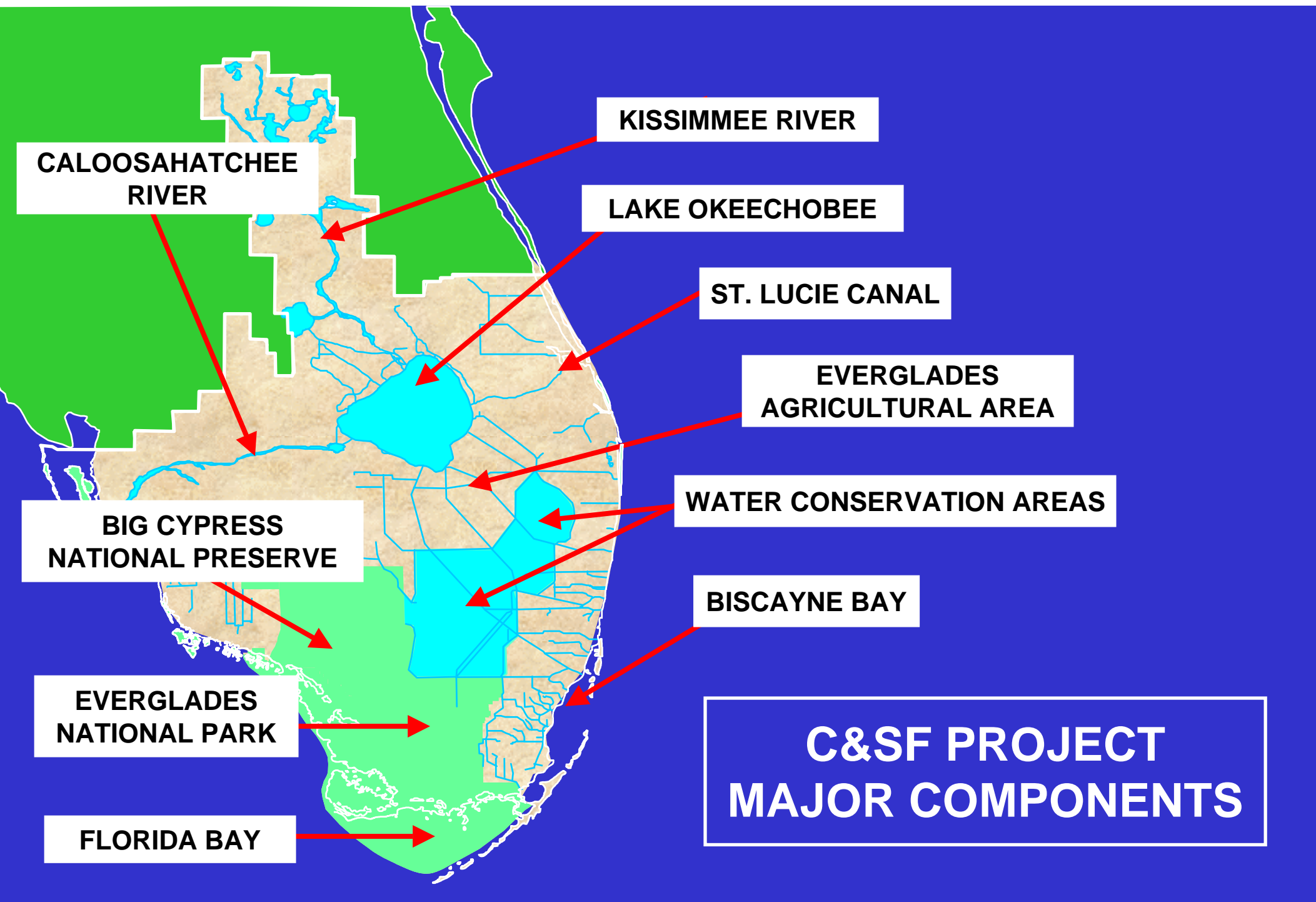
- ✓ a National Park
- ✓ an International Biosphere Reserve
- ✓ a World Heritage Site
- ✓ a Wetland of International Significance
- ✓ home to 68 threatened or endangered plant and animal species



## “River of Grass”

- ✓ Water connected the system, from top to bottom
- ✓ 9 million acres of wetlands providing a variety of habitat
- ✓ Diverse mosaic of landscapes and seascapes







# The Problem

- Too much/too little water for the Everglades/south Florida ecosystem
- Fragmentation of natural areas
- Degradation of water quality
- Population growth and increased demand
- 1.7 billion gallons of water a day lost to tide



# **COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW STUDY (THE RESTUDY)**

- **Study first authorized by Congress in 1992**
- **Reexamination of C&SF Project to:**
  - **Restore south Florida ecosystem**
  - **Enhance water supplies**
  - **Maintain flood control**
- **Comprehensive Plan sent to Congress on July 1, 1999**



# NOT BUSINESS AS USUAL

- Complexity of problems
- Need for ecosystem perspective
- Conflicting agency responsibilities
- Intense public interest

# TEAM PARTICIPANTS

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- South Florida Water Management District
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Everglades National Park
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Miccosukee and Seminole Tribes
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Local Government Agencies



*Agency*

A red baseball cap with a white script logo that reads "Agency". The cap is positioned centrally in the frame against a dark, out-of-focus background. The cap's brim is flat and also red. The background shows some indistinct shapes and colors, suggesting an indoor setting with low lighting.



# Restudy Team Partnering Agreement

## Partnership Agreement

We, the members of the Central & Southern Florida Project Runway Team, have been empowered by our agencies to expeditiously advance the restoration of the Everglades and the South Florida Ecosystem and to secure the prudent use of water resources. We pledge to make this effort our highest work priority and to set the needs of the team above individual goals.

We recognize the necessity and importance of completing our mission quickly and efficiently, making effective use of our collective agencies' resources to ensure the highest quality results.

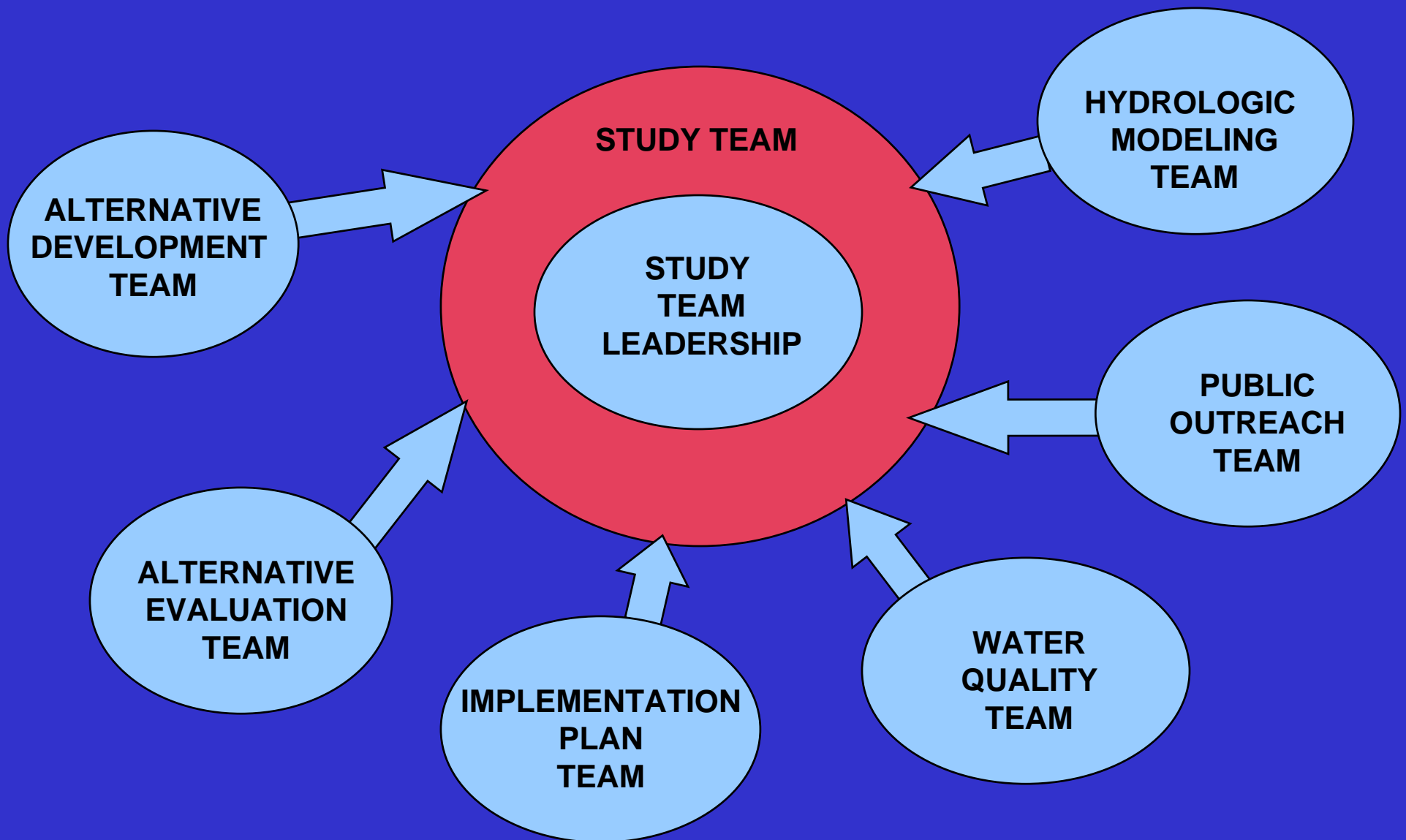
We are committed to open communication, joint problem-solving, and teamwork to accomplish the following goals:

- a. Maintain a positive partnership team approach at all levels.
- b. Establish a general problem-solving process.
- c. Establish effective means of communication with and between partner agencies as well as others.
- d. Facilitate emergency information exchange.

We, the project team members, do hereby commit ourselves to work together through mutual trust and respect and to cooperate in all matters which affect this project. For we believe that only through this spirit of teamwork, using the attached implementation plan for our partnership, can we successfully advance the restoration of the Everglades and South Florida Ecosystems.

[illegible]

# RESTUDY TEAM STRUCTURE

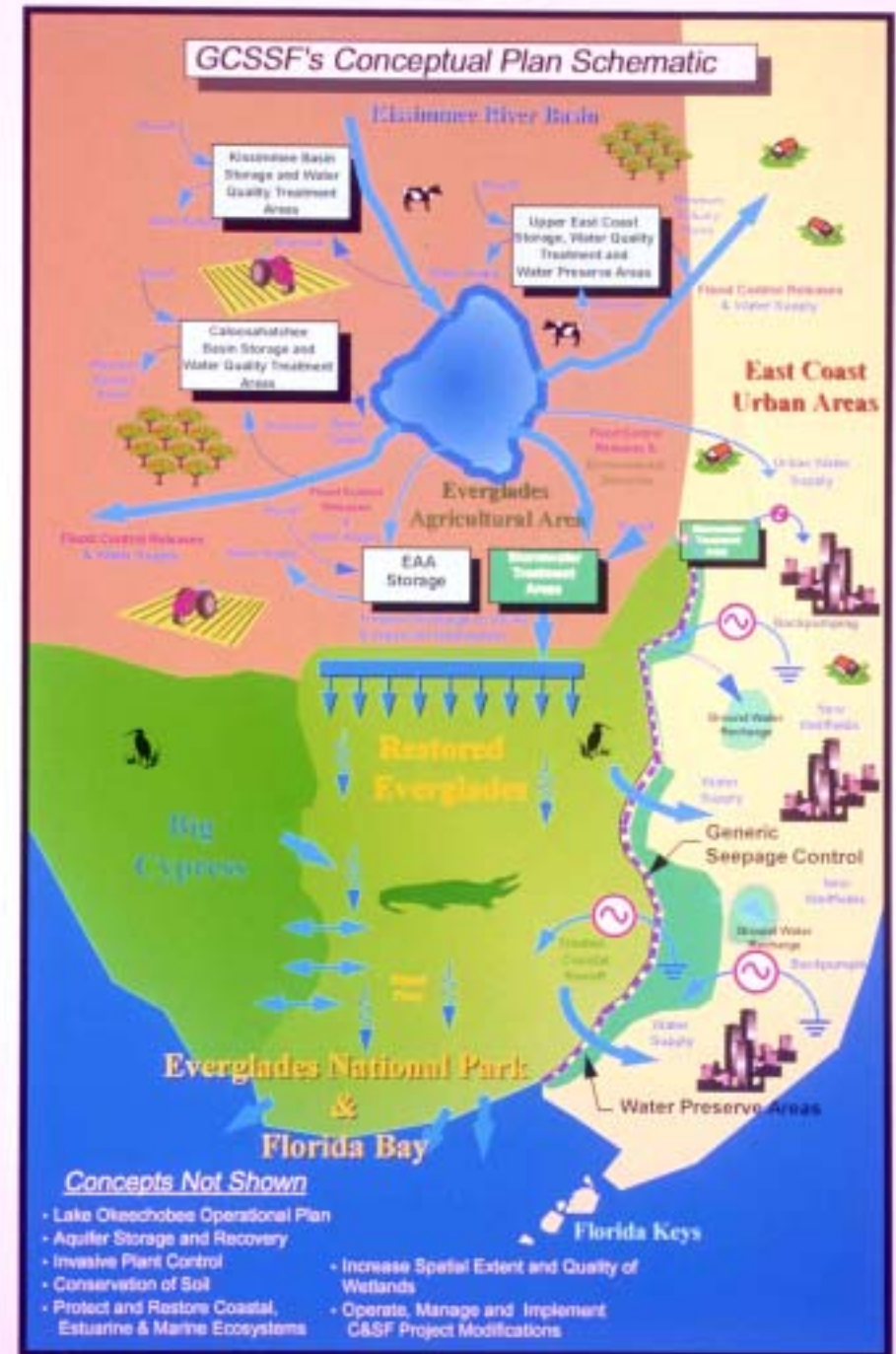


# **GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION**

**“By January 1, 1996, the Commission should provide the South Florida Water Management District and the Corps with specific recommendations describing its preferred alternatives for the Restudy.”**



# Governor's Commission Conceptual Plan

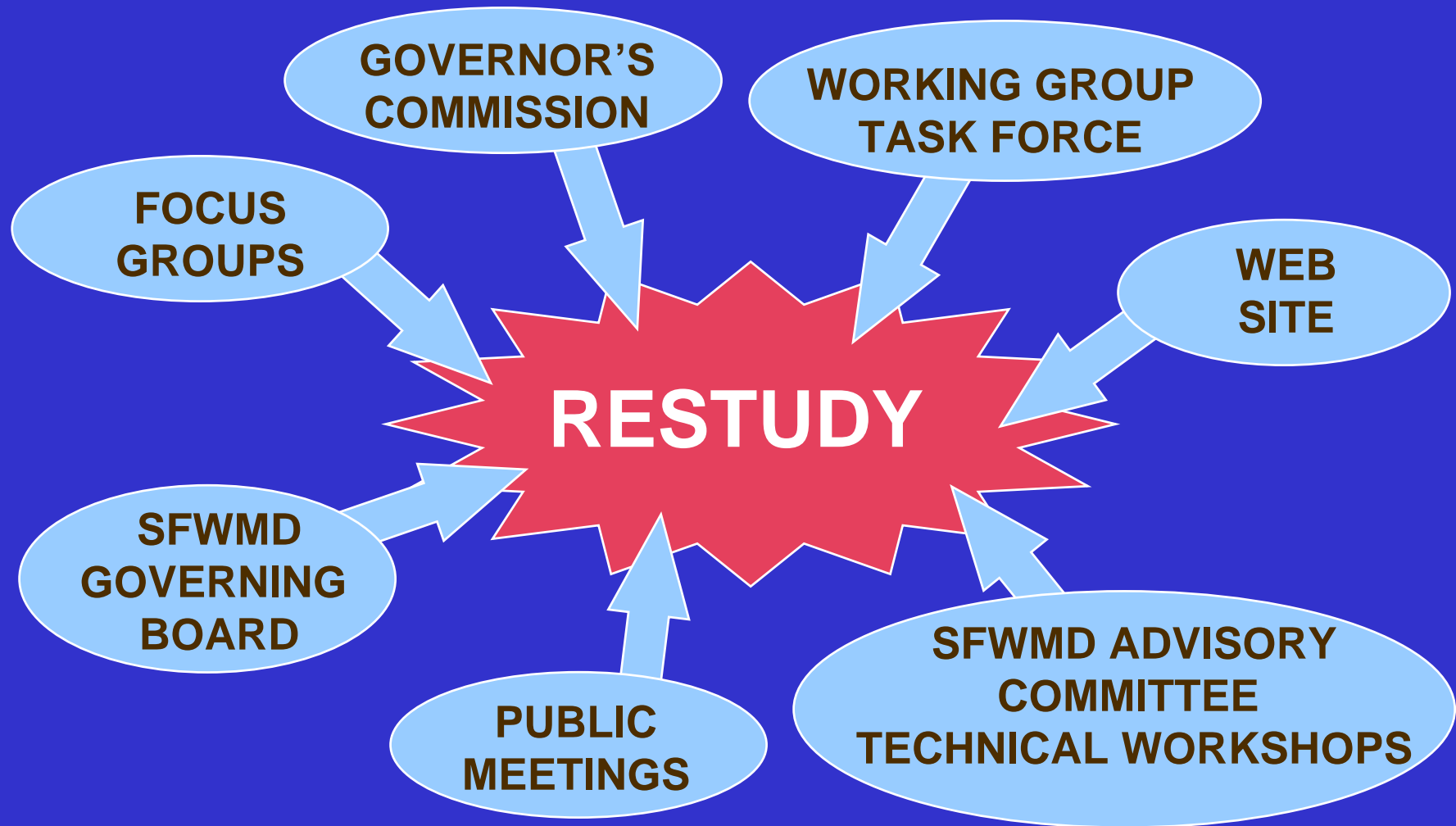


Visit our  
web site

[www.evergladesplan.org](http://www.evergladesplan.org)



# PUBLIC / STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT







# ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PILOT PROJECT



- **High Schools**
  - Lesson Plans
  - Exhibit Visits
  - Attend Public Meetings

- **Elementary Schools**
  - Lesson Plans
  - Poster Contest



# OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

- Outreach Coordinators
- Contractors
  - Hispanic Outreach
  - African-American Outreach

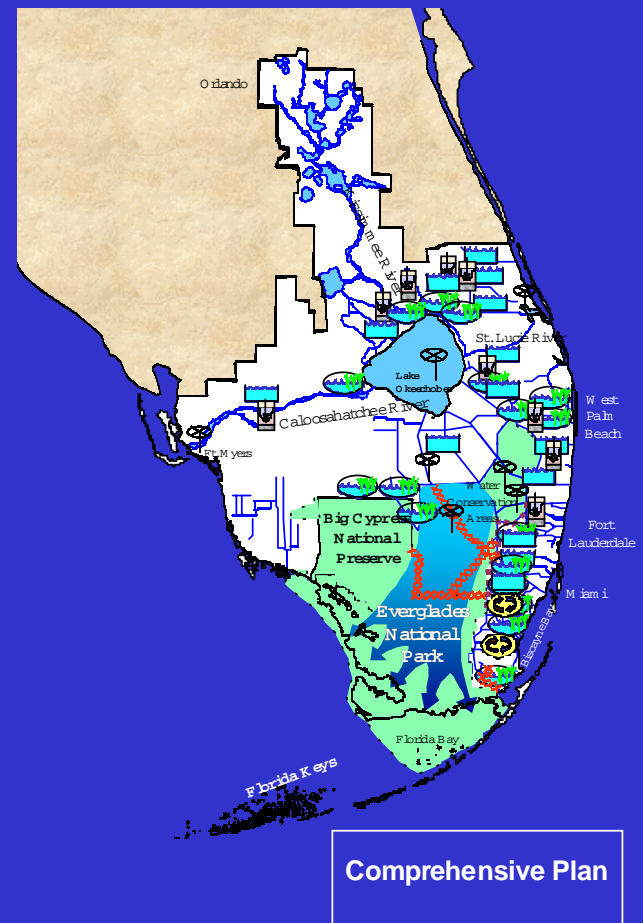


- DE Involvement
  - Media
  - Speeches
  - Schools
- Publications

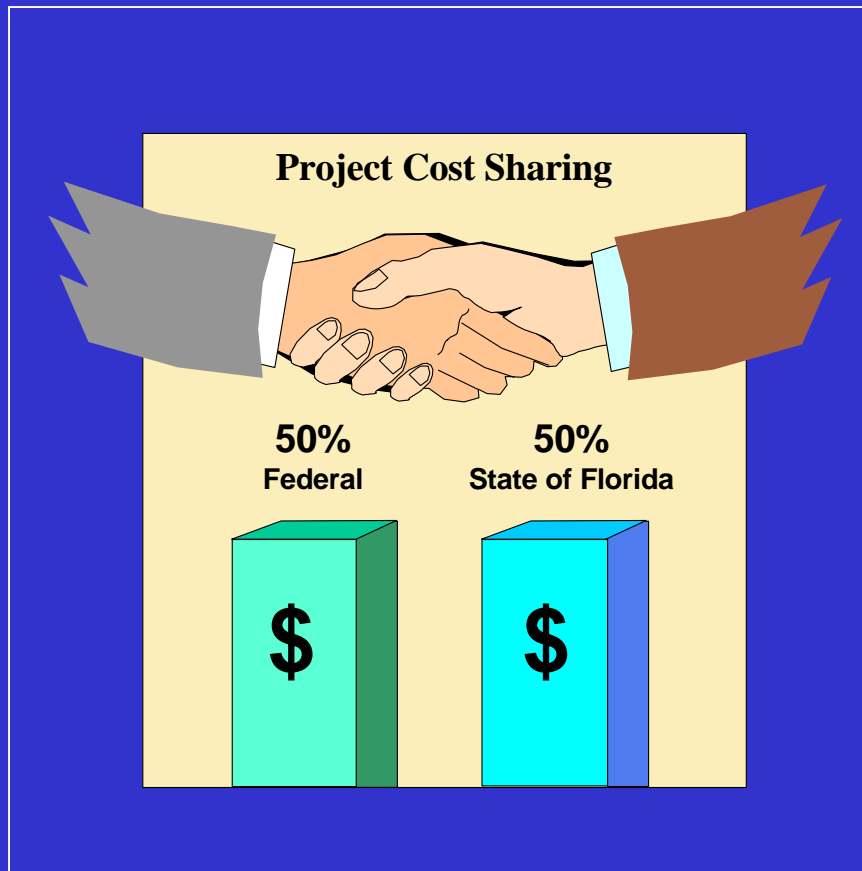


# THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

- Pilot projects to address uncertainties
- **16** surface storage areas (~170,000 acres)
- **2** in-ground reservoirs (~10,000 acres)
- **330** ASR wells
- **19** STAs (~36,000 acres)
- **2** wastewater reuse plants
- Removal of over **240** miles of canals, levees and structures
- Operational changes

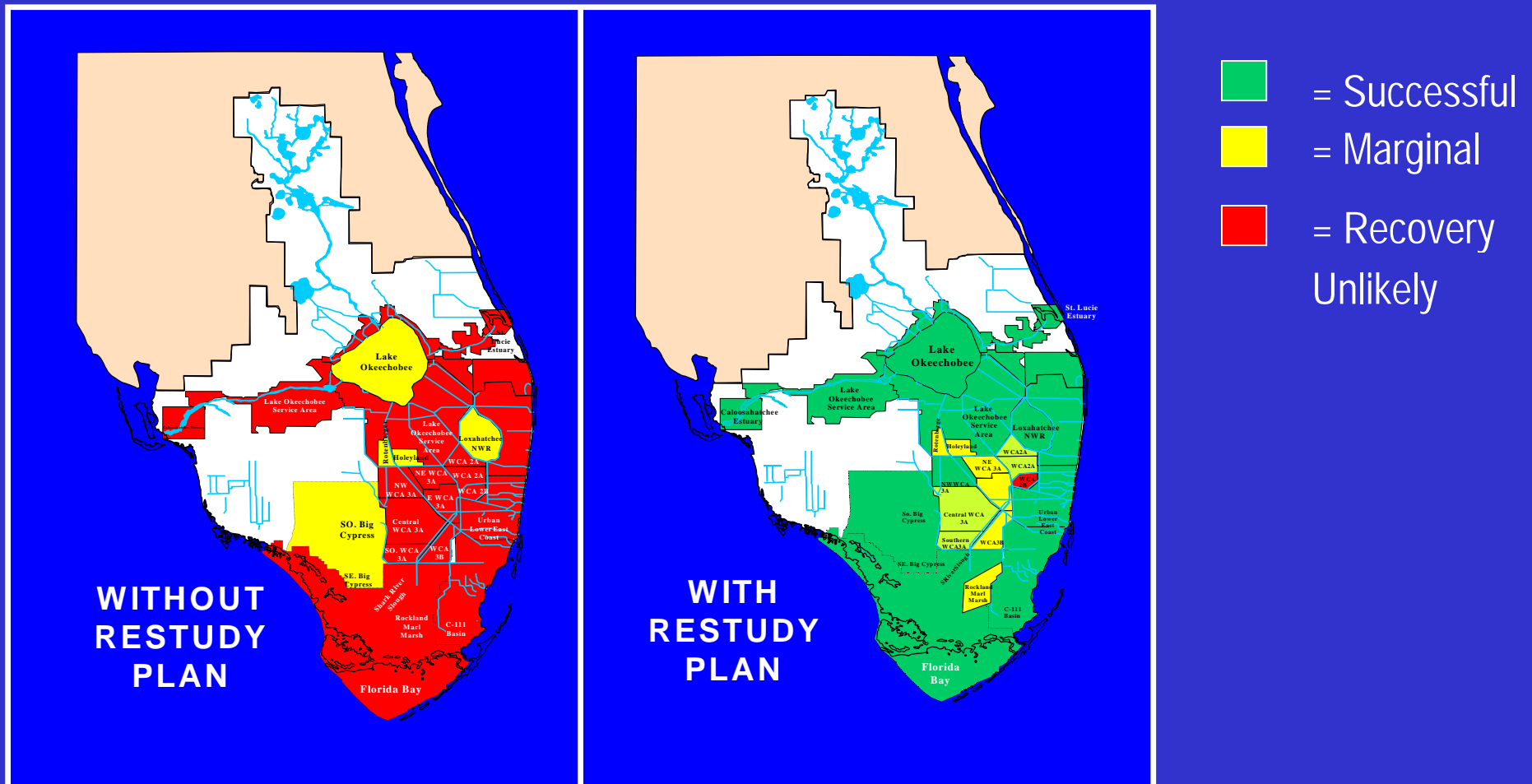


# How Much and Who Pays?

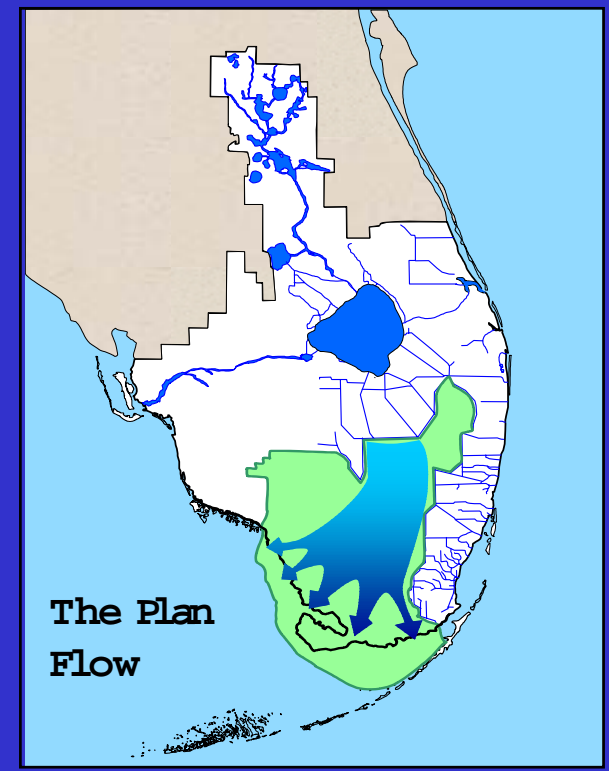
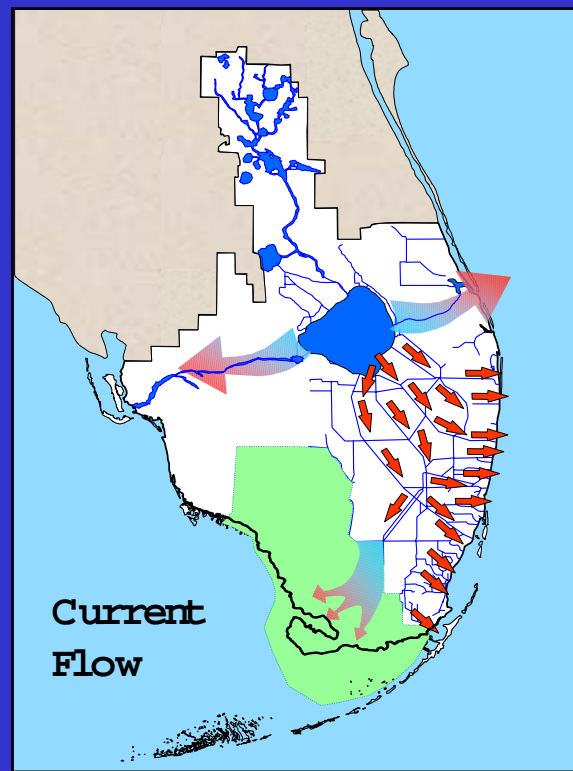
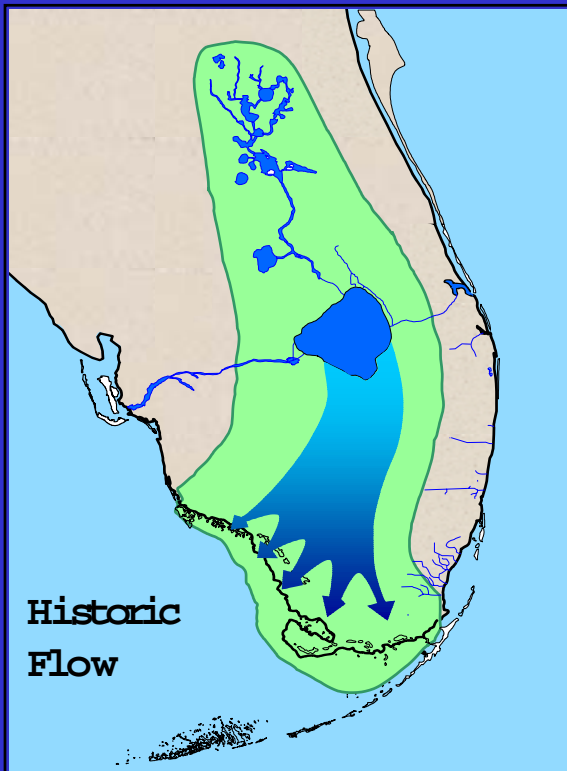


- ✓ The estimated cost to implement the Comprehensive Plan is \$7.8 billion over 25 years
- ✓ It will also cost approximately \$182 million each year to operate, maintain, and monitor the Plan

# FUTURE ECOSYSTEM CONDITIONS



# WATER FLOW PATTERNS





**“The Everglades  
are an American  
treasure, and saving  
them must be a  
national priority.”**

**Vice President Al Gore**

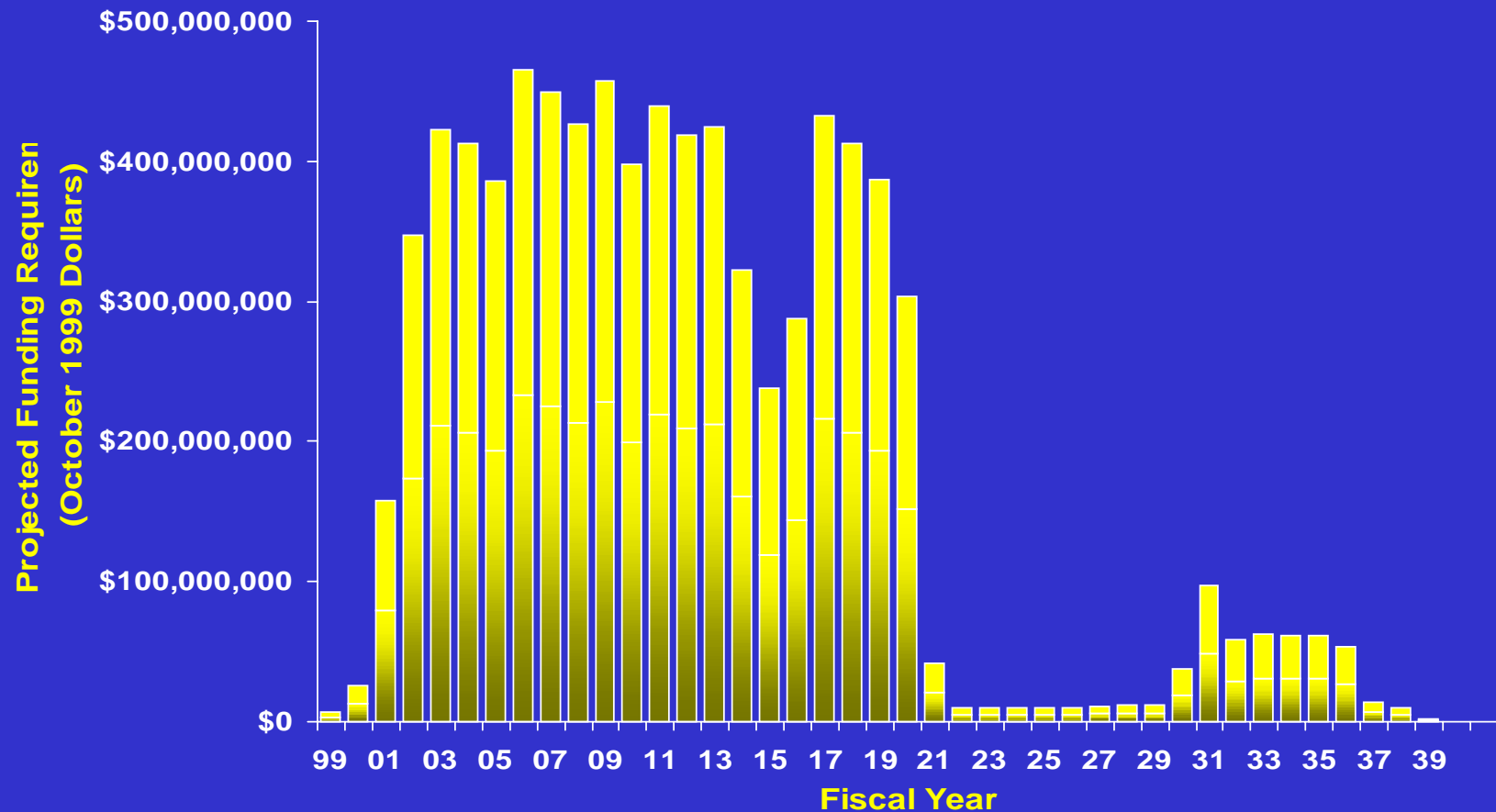


# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



# COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

## PROJECTED ANNUAL COST



**“...restoring the Everglades is  
not rocket science or brain  
surgery.**

**It’s much more complicated than  
that.”**

**- Don Boesch**

**University of Maryland**



